



Poisonous animals 2.5 Grass snake

Scientific name : Natrix Natrix

Other common name : Ringed snake

Identification :

1. The **common grass snake** (*N. natrix*), which is the most terrestrial of the water snakes, inhabits all of Europe and western Asia.
2. It is olive-coloured, green, or grey, with a yellow or white collar on the neck.
3. Adults range in length **from 0.6 to 1 metre (2 to 3 feet); however, some may reach 2 metres (about 6.5 feet) in length.**
4. The **recurved small teeth of the grass snake form two rows in the upper jaw and one row on the dentary.**

Nature of venom : Its venom mainly contains **neurotoxins** which have paralyzing activities to the nervous system and **cardiotoxins which act cytolytically.**